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Cubans seem unable to suppress and which some of them wish the United States to settle. The crisis also exists owing to the financial chaos that recent insular extravagance plus general war-reaction conditions have brought to pass. The dispatch of General Crowder to Cuba by President Wilson, January 3, was the first step in the direction of renewed American supervision, if not intervention. He goes as a special commissioner, and his first duty will be to make a report to the President on conditions as he finds them.

## BOOK REVIEWS

**MEIN KAMPF GEGEN DAS MILITARISTISCHE UND NATIONALISTISCHE DEUTSCHLAND (MY FIGHT AGAINST THE MILITARISTIC AND NATIONALISTIC GERMAN).** By Fr. W. Foerster. Brentano's, New York City. \$1.00.

Fr. W. Foerster has given a new book to the world. Although a German, Professor Foerster is not blind to the wrongdoings and the crimes committed by his native country, the cause of which he traces back to the Bismarckian era.

Foerster is not a professional politician. At the outbreak of the war he was Professor of Pedagogical Psychology at the University of Munich. But he considers history and politics with a rare clearness of mind. He brings forth in a perfectly unbiased way all the facts which are known to both sides; he is an honest judge of his people.

"You will not get rid of me," he says, "because I am a German and because I love my country; I must show you the truth, for to see it is the only thing that can help you. No enemy writer could bring forward a greater and sharper accusation against new German politics and new German militarism than I have done in these pages, but I can do it because I have the firm belief that the old German spirit will arise again."

He goes deep down to the hidden causes of the downhill development of the Germany that was, the Germany which produced minds like Kant, Herder, and Goethe; into the militaristic and boisterous self-imposing Germany of 1914, which, through steel and blood, sought might and glory, and which produced Treitschke and his followers.

Germany gave up the real mission she had had in the concert of the civilized nations in Europe. The drums of militarism taught her a false tune. It was a loud shrieking tune she played, and she demanded that all the world should march to it, regardless of the needs and wishes of all other peoples. In doing so she sold her soul for materialism and unbounded, blindfolded, might-seeking selfishness.

How was such an utter reverse from its own innate mentality possible with a people which, according to its oldest tradition and by force of its very geographical situation, tended to universality, and which has always shown a love, yea, even an admiration, for foreign achievements?

That this change was so radical is, according to Foerster, due to the fact that what a German does he does thoroughly! Foerster says: "It seems to belong to the German element of thoroughness that one epoch of intense intellectuality has to be followed by another epoch which denies all spiritual foundations of life up to their last consequences. The new type converted all traditional norms of valuation and threw all its idealistic force of will power into a cynical affirmation of realistic might-seeking overwhelming oppression." Thus what Germany gained in extension she lost in intention.

The wish for outward extension has throughout history existed in all countries and with all powerful people, but in other countries it was not so exclusive. Other people have too much tact, too much shame to make militarism their outspoken ideal and to preach it as the gospel of their government. That was only possible in Germany, and this it was that brought all the world against her.

"That political causality became in a quite peculiar way a psychological causality is to be ascribed to the continu-

ously irritating effect of the new German national mentality on the mentality of all the other peoples." And this terrible state of mind, which, by its very intensity bordered on craziness, determined also the kind of warfare of the German military powers after the world catastrophe had been precipitated. What made it so dreadful and almost incomprehensible to all those who had known and believed in a Germany with universal ideals was "this appalling solidarity of the higher type with the lower; this high-strung and pathetic unbelief of the idealist in the competence of idealistic factors, the doubt in the superiority of anything that is fair and honest."

Out of the indiscriminate enthusiasm for militarism followed this naïf, while mostly unconscious, insincerity and hypocrisy which, remembering great intellectual traditions, used to parade in the wrong places; crying out for sympathy, seeking to demonstrate to those powers which had remained neutral how ill-treated and misunderstood Germany really was; misplaced experiments to "enlighten" other people who did need no enlightenment; stupefied Germans, who begin to awake to the truth, say often now: "We have been misled by our government!" But it is not that; it is much worse! With all the thorough enthusiasm of which the German race is capable, *they have misled themselves*.

Therefore a change into another comprehension of facts, an utter psychical reform is much more difficult, and must be much slower than President Wilson had hoped when he wrote down his 14 points.

*"Only a revision of this impossible mentality can bring about a revision of an impossible peace treaty."* This is the conclusion of Professor Foerster's deep-searching studies of the world's greatest catastrophe.

That such a book could be written by a German, and that in these opinions he stands not alone, may be regarded as the dawning of a better future, a future in which a true League of Nations is possible and future wars will be made impossible.

LUCY HOESCH ERNST.

**THE BRITISH YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, 1920-21.** Edited by Cyril M. Piciotti. Oxford University Press, New York City.

This new publication is a good omen of retained interest and faith in international law. Just because its promoters and its learned editorial committee believe that international law is a "living force," and that "a wider knowledge and comprehension of the subject is essential" now, they also believe it to be "equally true that the experiences of the last few years have shown that much that was regarded as definitely established must be re-examined in the light of modern developments" caused mainly by the World War. Science and commerce, they intimate, have vitally affected the old rules of war and of neutrality; and the creation of a League of Nations and the powers conferred on some of its subordinate organs will necessitate "a readjustment of some of the primary rules on the subject of sovereign independent States."

Part of the contents of this volume is elegiac in character. Tributes are paid to men like Oppenheim, T. J. Lawrence, Pitt Corbett, and Heinrich Lammasch, whose works do follow them, though their serviceable careers as thinkers and writers have closed. Other articles have the contemporaneous interest which the following titles suggest: "The British Prize Courts and the War" (Sir Erle Richards), "Sovereignty and the League of Nations" (Sir Geoffrey Butler), "The League of Nations and the Laws of War," "The Neutrality of Brazil," "The Legal Administration of Palestine under the British Military Occupation," "Submarine Warfare" (Prof. A. Pearce Higgins), and "International Labour Conventions" (Sir John Macdonell).

This yearbook is independent of all governmental control or subsidies. It must depend upon the support of patrons who believe in its mission. Its editors assume no responsibility or censorship over its articles. It deserves the commendation of purchase.